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**PRESS RELEASE - APRIL 27, 2009**  
**VILLAGE OF CROTON-ON-HUDSON**

**BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN ADOPTED**

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson has adopted a Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan (Bike/Ped Plan) making it among the first to approve a plan that will guide future development in the community in making it a bicycle and pedestrian friendly place. Approved on April 20, 2009, the Bike/Ped Plan lays the foundation for examining future proposals affecting movement around the Village.

The Village's 2003 Comprehensive Plan called for improvements in connectivity between areas of the Village by improving the ability of residents to safely use the streets and sidewalks of the Village to move from neighborhood to neighborhood as well as to and from the Croton-Harmon Railroad station. The Planning Board, Trails Committee, and Croton Economic Development Committee are among those boards which will now utilize this planning tool in their deliberations.

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee was formed in 2006 – a group of interested volunteer residents. The Committee held multiple public input sessions, researched existing conditions and developed possible route maps. The final version, after several iterations, was approved on April 20, 2009 by the Board of Trustees. The Committee, chaired by Josh Moreinis, consisted of Joe Biber, Karen Moy, Jeremy Goldsmith, Rob Olsson and Justin Casson. Chair Josh Moreinis expressed the conviction that implementing the plan's recommendations will provide substantial "returns of investment on safety, public health, the environment, fuel-savings as well as other local economic benefits."

The Bike/Ped Master Plan recommendations have already been instrumental in the development of a grant application by The RBA Group, the Village's traffic consultant, seeking approval on the Village's behalf for \$1.5 million in vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian improvements along Croton Point Ave. In late March 2009, the Village was approved to receive \$1.2 million of the requested grant.

The Plan will also provide the impetus for attracting bikers to Croton and for Croton-based cycling events. As part of a BPC initiative, last year the Village sponsored the 1<sup>st</sup> Croton Bike Week. Organized by committee member Rob Olsson, events included many cycling incentives: bike to school, bike to train, and bike to shop. Over 30 local businesses offered discounts to cycling customers and bike racks around the village were filled to capacity. Rob Olsson is looking forward to an even better Bike Week this September which will also take advantage of the Westchester Cycling Club's Golden Apple Century Ride and the Toughman Triathlon, both occurring that week and both of which pass through Croton. "This event demonstrates how safe cycling can bring together members of our community, promote health and the environment, and support local businesses," said Rob.

The Plan provides recommendations addressing pedestrian and bicycling issues in several general areas: commuting, shopping, schools, neighborhood connectivity and public education. The plan is available in full on the village's web site: [www.crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov).